

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 ATHENS 001268

SIPDIS

EUR/SE FOR PARENTE AND YOUNTCHI  
EUR/PGI FOR BETKA  
G/TIP FOR DONNELLY  
INL/CTR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/08/2009

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [KWMN](#) [GR](#) [TIP](#)

SUBJECT: MOLYVIATIS FOLLOWS UP ON TIP ISSUES IN GREECE

Classified By: Amb. Charles P. Ries. Reasons 1.4(b/d)

**1.** (C) SUMMARY: In a May 9 meeting with Ambassador (following a May 5 Interministerial Council on TIP --the result of Molyviatis's April 29 telcon with U/S Burns), Molyviatis undertook to speed up agreement with Albania on a child repatriation protocol, to provide more comprehensive trafficking statistics, to implement a nation-wide, long-term anti-TIP public awareness campaign, and to try to convince the Greek Justice Ministry to accept the need for a mandatory screening mechanism. END SUMMARY.

**2.** (C) U/S Burns called Molyviatis April 29 to lay out five urgent TIP priorities for Greece: (1) sign a child repatriation protocol with Albania; (2) provide data on, and try to increase number of, convictions of traffickers; (3) conduct nation-wide public awareness campaign to educate/inform both the general public and victims; (4) increase the number of women referred to anti-TIP shelters; and (5) develop a screening mechanism for law enforcement to identify victims, and a referral mechanism for NGOs to direct victims to appropriate care. Ambassador reviewed the points with Molyviatis on May 3. On May 5 Molyviatis convened a high-level TIP discussion in the Interministerial Trafficking Committee specifically to respond to these points.

**3.** (C) In their May 9 meeting, Molyviatis briefed Ambassador on the results of the 5/5 Interministerial Committee meeting (see text at para 4) and provided some additional comments on the five identified priorities:

-- Molyviatis acknowledged the need to rapidly conclude a child repatriation agreement with Albania. One hour after the meeting, Molyviatis's Chef d'Cabinet called PolCouns with an update: the MFA had "all but finalized" its revisions to the draft document received from Tirana. The Ministry of Public Order is still working on one new paragraph on cooperation between police forces. The MFA is pressuring the MPO to finalize the draft so it can be returned to Tirana for their review. (NOTE: Only after both sides agree on the text can the text be sent to Parliament for approval. END NOTE.)

-- Molyviatis agreed to request more complete data on number of traffickers in prison and length of sentences from the Ministries of Justice and Public Order.

-- Molyviatis agreed to support nation-wide, long-term public awareness campaigns to educate the general public of the trafficking problems and inform victims and potential victims of their rights.

-- Molyviatis explained that, of all the priorities, the screening mechanism was the most problematic. The Justice Minister had been advised that the screening mechanism would abrogate the State's powers by turning over to NGOs responsibility for victim identification. Ambassador clarified that the involvement of NGOs would not replace the frontline security responsibilities of the Greek police. NGOs, could however, be enormously helpful to the Greek authorities as the civilian face of the state -- reassuring victims of their status and arranging for any required care. Molyviatis agreed to call Papaligouras today to explain that it was important to agree on a mechanism to institutionalize the role of NGOs in this process.

**4.** (U) BEGIN TEXT MFA DOCUMENT:

Informal Note

Subject: Meeting of Interministerial Committee on Human Trafficking (May 5th)

The Committee which met on the 5th of May decided inter alia:

A new Draft Agreement on Children-Trafficking is to be sent to the Albanian side in the next weeks. A new Greek law, necessary for the agreement, regarding the appointment of a temporary Guardian entrusted with escorting children to their country of origin, has already been sent to the Parliament by

the Ministry of Justice.

Available data on arrests, related to trafficking as well as to convictions, will be given to the press. According to these, since 2002, 357 suspects, 25 of which in the first three months of 2005, have been prosecuted and 71 persons convicted.

Already existing cooperation with Non-governmental organizations will be strengthened, especially in the field of public awareness, victims information and shelter keeping.

A systematic campaign to inform public opinion on the problem of trafficking will be launched by the General Secretariat for Gender Equality with the presence of members of the Interministerial Committee and the NGOs, and it will complement the ongoing information circulated through the media. One of the aims of the campaign will be to encourage victims to refer to the authorities of relevant NGO,s.

END TEXT.

Ries